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(54) **HIV protease inhibitors useful for the treatment of aids.**

(57) Compounds of the form,
A-G-B-B-J
wherein A is an amine protecting group not useful or
commonly employed in peptide synthesis, G a
dipeptide isostere, B an amino acid or analog there-
of, and J a small terminal group are described.
These compounds are useful in the inhibition of HIV
protease, the prevention or treatment of infection by

HIV and the treatment of AIDS, either as com-
pounds, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, pharma-
ceutical composition ingredients, whether or not in
combination with other antivirals, immunomodulators,
antibiotics or vaccines. Methods of treating AIDS and
methods of preventing or treating infection by HIV
are also described.

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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent
proceedings, as the European search report

Application number

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
X	J. ORG. CHEM., vol. 50, 1985, pages 4615-4625, American Chemical Society; B.E. EVANS et al.: "A stereocontrolled synthesis of hydroxyethylene dipeptide isosteres using novel, chiral aminoalkyl epoxides and epsilon-(aminoalkyl) epsilon-lactones"		C 07 K 5/02 C 07 C 125/065 C 07 C 143/74 C 07 C 153/057 C 07 D 213/40 C 07 H 13/04 C 07 F 9/28 C 07 F 9/09 A 61 K 37/64 A 61 K 31/16 A 61 K 31/395 A 61 K 31/66 C 07 K 5/06
	* Entire article *	1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14- 17, 24- 26	
Y	--	27-36	
X	PEPTIDES STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION - PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINTH AMERICAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM, pages 743-746, Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, Illinois, US; ./.		
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
<p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the provisions of the European Patent Convention to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of some of the claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely: 18-23 Claims searched incompletely: 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24-36 Claims not searched: Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>See sheet -C-</p>			C 07 K C 07 C C 07 D A 61 K
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11-01-1991	Examiner GROENENDIJK
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid.
- namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

X LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions.

namely:

See sheet -B-

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid.
- namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.
- 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24-36 (partially) and
namely claims: 18-23



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions.

namely:

1. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24-36 (all partially) and 18-23: Compounds of formula 1 wherein $Q = -CH(OH)-CH_2-$, $Z = O$, and $R_9 = (\text{subst.})$ aralkyl and their pharmaceutical compositions.
2. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24-36 (all partially) and 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13: Other compounds of formula 1 and their pharmaceutical compositions.



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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
Y	B.E. EVANS et al.: "A stereocontrolled synthesis of hydroxyethylene dipeptide isosteres using novel, chiral aminoalkyl epoxides; new renin inhibitor analogs"		
	* Entire article *	1-3, 6, 7, 10, 14-17, 24-26 27-36	
X	EP-A-0 206 090 (MERCK & CO.)		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
	* Entire document *	1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14- 17, 24- 26 27-36	
Y	NATURE, vol. 329, 15th October 1987, pages 654-656; I. KATOH et al.: "Inhibition of retroviral protease activity by an aspartyl proteinase inhibitor"		
	* Entire article *	27-36	
D,A	MARKETLETTER, 30th November 1987, pages 26-27, IMS World Publications Ltd; "Aids products in development"		
	* Entire article *	24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36	
D,A	GENETIC ENGINEERING NEWS, January 1988, pages 23, 29; S.P. DELCO: "AIDS diagnostic and therapeutic market potential		
	./.		



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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
	continues to grow" * Entire article *	24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36	
	-----		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)



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The formula of claim 1 is extremely broad and is lacking an invariable structural entity common to all the compounds covered by it. Besides the formula covers well-known (intermediate) products (e.g. EP 209897 from the applicant, EP 212203 and the documents cited in the search report). Therefore no common inventive concept can be acknowledged for the compounds of this formula.

Moreover the extensive lists of substituents and their cascading prohibits the Searching Authority to perform a complete search or even to make an exhaustive list of subdivisions according to unifying structural characteristics.

For this reasons the application does not meet the requirements laid down in Art. 82 and 84 EPC.

On the basis of the examples the search has been directed to the subject as defined in the supplemental sheet B and restricted to the examples covered by this subject and close analogs of them. The actual subject 2 contains still distinct subjects which lack a common unifying structural entity.

Applicant is invited, in case he seeks patent protection beyond the first subject to specify the distinct unitary subjects amongst the subject matter of the actual subject 2.

If the applicant pays just one or more search fees without any specification of the desired subject matter to be searched the Searching Authority will be compelled to make a further subdivision of the actual second subject and remit a new partial search report.

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